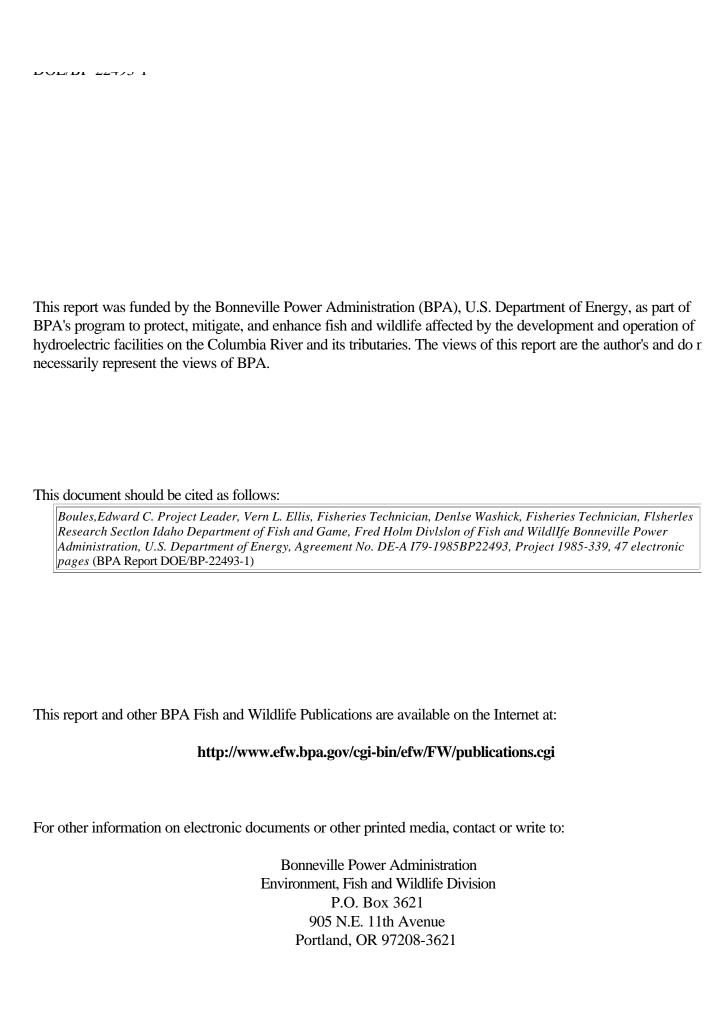
July 1985

KOKANEE STOCK STATUS AND CONTRIBUTION OF CABINET GORGE HATCHERY, LAKE PEND OREILLE, IDAHO

Annual Report 1985







KOKANEE STOCK STATUS AND CONTRIBUTION OF CABINET GORGE HATCHERY, LAKE PEND OREILLE, IDAHO

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY 1985

Ву

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ABSTRACT

Mid-water trawling techniques were used during September to estimate kokanee population abundance, structure and survival. Abundance in 1985 was estimated at 4.5 million fish (198 per hectare), down from over 12 million kokanee in 1974 when the population was first monitored. Hatchery fry production (<6 million annually) has stabilized kokanee abundance since its initial decline in the late 1960s. Wild fry recruitment has remained relatively stable at 1.8 million since 1978; whereas recruitment of hatchery-reared fry has ranged from 0.09 to 1.98 million.

The 1985 creel survey Indicated that kokanee harvest rates remain low, with approximately one kokanee harvested per hour of effort from April to August. Catch rates were as high as 3.5 fish per hour during the mid-1960s.

The zooplankton community was monitored with periodic plankton tows. Zooplankton composition in 1985 was similar to previous years and appears to have stabilized following the introduction of mysids, with peak cladoceran production occurring several weeks after peak kokanee emergence. Delayed release of hatchery fry resulted in higher survival of hatchery (7.3%) than wild (0.43%) kokanee fry. Other release strategies will be tested as more fry become available.

The 1985 egg take was 10.6 million, down 29% from the 1984 take and less than 40% of the projected egg take necessary to fill Cabinet Gorge Hatchery. Low egg collection in 1985 was more a result of reduced spawner migration due to low water temperature than reduced spawner abundance. Length of kokanee spawners has been increasing since 1975, probably the result of low population density and utilization of mysids by older age-classes.

INTRODUCTION

Lake Pend Oreille supported the most popular kokanee salmon (Oncorhynchus nerka) fishery in Idaho from the 1940s until the early 1970s. The sport and commercial fishery produced an average annual yield of 1 million kokanee for 360,000 hours of angling effort from 1951 to 1965 (Ellis and Bowler 1979). Sport anglers enjoyed catch rates as high as 3.5 fish per hour during the mid-1960s. Annual kokanee harvest has declined steadily since 1965 to present levels of less than 200,000 fish, supporting mean catch rates of approximately 1 kokanee per hour. In addition to providing an important fishery, kokanee are the primary forage for trophy Kamloops rainbow trout (Salmo gairdneri) and bull trout (Salvelinus confluentus) in Lake Pend Oreille.

Several factors contributed to the initial decline of kokanee. Hydropower development adversely impacted spawning success of kokanee Albeni Falls Dam was completed in 1952 by the Army Corps of Engineers as part of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) network. Located on the Pend Oreille River approximately 35 km downstream of Lake Pend Oreille, Albeni Falls Dam raised lake levels 4 m. Annual winter drawdown averaging 1.3 m from 1951 to 1968 increased embryo mortality by exposing redds of lakeshore spawning kokanee (Bowler et al. 1979). Cabinet Gorge Dam was constructed on the Clark Fork River (rkm 19) for power generation by Washington Water Power Company (WWP). Completion of this dam in 1952 blocked an important kokanee spawning run into the Clark Fork River and its tributaries. Declining kokanee abundance may have been accelerated by commercial and sport fishing overharvest. The establishment of opossum shrimp (Mysis relicta) in Lake Pend Oreille during the mid-1970s adversely Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) impacted kokanee recruitment. Introduced Mysis to 1968 to enhance the kokanee forage base. The expected response of increased juvenile growth and survival did not occur because mysids competed with post-emergent kokanee fry for cladoceran zooplankton. Competition with and predation on zooplankton by mysids delayed production of two cladocerans (Daphnia and Bosmina) which are essential juvenile kokanee forage during the first few weeks of feeding (Rieman and Bowler 1980). Increased growth of older kokanee was also not as great as anticipated due to spatial segregation between Mysis and feeding kokanee. Mysids remain in deep water during daylight hours and migrate to surface waters at night. Kokanee are visual feeders and are thus able to feed on the shrimp for short periods during dawn and dusk only (Rieman 1977).

Interagency efforts to rehabilitate the kokanee fishery began with its initial decline. The Army Corps of Engineers adopted a policy for Albeni Fails Dam in 1967 to minimize water level fluctuations during kokanee spawning and incubation. IDFG enacted special sport harvest regulations for kokanee in 1973 and terminated the commercial fishery. Hatchery production of kokanee for Lake Pend Oreille was established by 1974 and helped stabilize population numbers. Delayed planting of hatchery fry until mid-summer to avoid early season forage deficiencies increased hatchery fry survival up to 13 times that found to the wild (Bowler 1981). Hatchery production kept the fishery from total collapse, but rearing capacity of existing hatcheries was

inadequate to rebuild the fishery. Prior to 1985, hatcheries could provide only 6 to 8 million kokanee fry annually for Lake Pend Oreille. Research indicated that releases of up to 20 million fry annually may be necessary to restore the fishery to historic levels (Rieman 1981).

In an effort to enhance Lake Pend Oreille kokanee production, the Cabinet Gorge Hatchery was built on the Clark Fork River 4 km below Cabinet Gorge Dam. Cost of the hatchery was approximately \$2.2 million and represented a cooperative effort among BPA, WWP and IDFG. BPA funding was from on-site resident fish mitigation funds mandated by the Northwest Power Act of 1980. Construction and evaluation of the Cabinet Gorge Hatchery is specified by measure 804(e)(5) of the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (NWPPC 1984). Cabinet Gorge Hatchery was operational by November 1985, in time to receive kokanee eggs from Granite Creek. At full capacity the hatchery will provide up to 20 million kokanee fry for release into the Pend Oreille system. Rebuilding the kokanee population to attain a goal of over 0.75 million kokanee harvested annually to 300,000 hours of effort will be dependent on production from this hatchery.

This research protect was developed by IDFG in cooperation with BPA to evaluate the contribution of Cabinet Gorge Hatchery to the Lake Pend Oreille kokanee stock and fishery and to provide recommendations for optimizing kokanee production and survival. Pre-protect data collected during 1985 and included in this report will be used with other data to measure the effectiveness of kokanee releases from Cabinet Gorge Hatchery beginning in 1986.

OBJECTIVES

- To assess the status of kokanee in Lake Pend Oreille before the influence of Cabinet Gorge Hatchery; including population size, age composition and hatchery-wild composition.
- 2. To determine kokanee age composition, growth and survival in relation to population density and carrying capacity of Lake Pend Oreille.
- 3. To evaluate size, timing and locations for release of hatchery-reared kokanee.
- 4. To obtain index information on natural spawning kokanee.
- 5. To monitor the Lake Pend Oreille zooplankton community and relate to changes in kokanee abundance.
- 6. To obtain pre-hatchery harvest data for the Lake Pend Oreille fishery for comparison with similar data after hatchery production influences the fishery.

STUDY AREA

Lake Pend Oreille is located in the panhandle of Idaho (Fig. 1). It is the largest lake in Idaho with a surface area of 383 km², mean depth of 164 m and maximum depth of 351 m. Mean surface elevation of Lake Pend Oreille is 629 msl. The Clark Fork River is the largest tributary to Lake Pend Oreille. Outflow from the lake forms the Pend Oreille River.

Lake Pend Oreille is a temperate, oligotrophic lake with minimal evidence of cultural or natural eutrophication (Rieman 1977). Summer temperatures average approximately 9 C in the upper 45 m of water. The N:P ratio is typically high (>11) and indicates primary production may be P limited (Rieman and Bowler 1980). Mean chlorophyll "a" concentration during summer is approximately 2 $\mu g/I$. Summer mean water transparency (secchi disk) ranges from 5 to 8 m.

A wide diversity of fish species are present in Lake Pend Oreille. Kokanee entered the lake in the early 1930s, presumably from Flathead Lake and were well established by the 1940s. Other game fish include: Kamloops rainbow trout, bull trout, rainbow trout (Salmo gairdneri), cutthroat trout (Salmo clarki), lake whitefish (Coregonus clupeaformis), mountain whitefish (Prosopium williamsoni) and several spiny ray species.

METHODS

Kokanee Abundance

Kokanee were sampled in September with a mid-water trawl towed by a 8.5 m boat with a 140 hp diesel engine. The trawl net was 13.7 m long with a 3x3 m mouth. Mesh sizes (stretch measure) graduated from 32, 25, 19 and 13 mm in the body of the net to 6 mm in the cod end. All age classes of kokanee were Trawling was done at night during the dark phase of the moon to collected. optimize capture efficiency (Bowler 1979). The trawl was towed at 1.5 m/s at depths estimated from cable angle-length relationships and verified with a time-depth recorder. Each oblique haul sampled the entire vertical distribution of kokanee, as determined from echograms produced by a 200 A depth sounder with two hull mounted transducers (22° and 8° beam angles). The vertical distribution of kokanee was divided into 13.7 m layers; usually 3 to 5 layers encompassed the vertical distribution of kokanee. A standard 3.5 minute tow was made in each layer, sampling 2,832 m³ of water over a distance of 305 m. Total volume of water sampled for each trawl haul varied from 8,496 to 14,160 m³ depending on the vertical distribution of kokanee.

A stratified random sampling scheme was used to estimate kokanee abundance and density. Lake Pend Oreille was divided into seven sections or strata (Fig. 2). Area of each section was calculated within the 91.5 m depth contour, except section 7, which was calculated from the 36.6 m contour because of shallower water (Fig. 2). The 91.5 m contour was used because it represents the pelagic area of the lake where kokanee are found in September

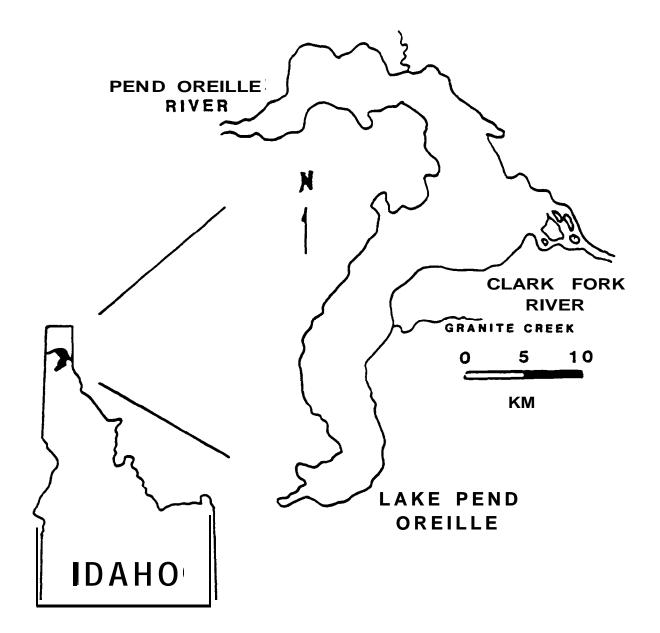


Figure 1. Lake Pend Oreille, l Pdaho.

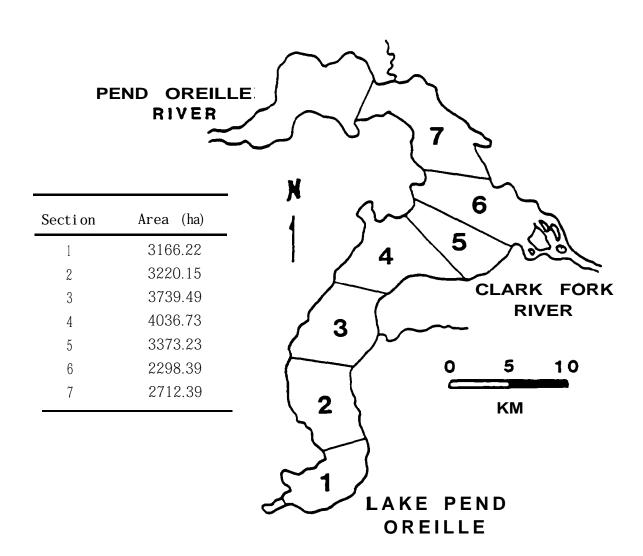


Figure 2. Stratified sampling sections and respective areas (hectares) used during 1985 for trawling and kokanee abundance estimation on Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho.

(Bowler 1978). Two to six transects were selected at random within each section and one haul (sample) was made along each transect. Total sample size to 1985 was 30 hauls.

Fish numbers per transect (haul) were weighted by transect volume and the age-specific number of kokanee for each stratum calculated with the formula (Scheaffer et al. 1979):

$$T_i = N_{i}y_i$$

where: N_i = total possible standard transects for stratums_i

y_i = total fish collected weighted by standard transect/number of transects.

The variance associated with this estimate was calculated as:

$$\Lambda$$
 V (T_i) = N²_i (s²_i/n_i) ((N_i-n_i) /N_j)

where:
$$s_{i}^{2} = 1 (y_{i} - y_{i})^{2} / (n_{i} - 1)$$

 n_i = number of samples (hauls) taken in stratums_i.

A 90% bound (B) (\propto =0.10) was placed on this estimate by:

$$B = 1.6 \sqrt[]{\frac{\Lambda}{V(T_i)}}$$

Total kokanee to Lake Pend Oreille for each age-class was calculated as:

$$T_{\text{total}} = \prod_{i=1}^{L} N_i \overline{y_i}$$

where: $N_i y_i$ = population estimate for each stratum(i) for L total strata.

The variance associated with this estimate was calculated as:

$$\Lambda \sum_{\substack{\Sigma \\ V(T_{total}) = i=1}}^{L} N_{i}^{2} ((N_{i}-n_{i})/N_{i})(s_{i}^{2}/n_{i})$$

A 90% bound (B) (\propto =0.10) was placed on this estimate by:

$$B = 1.6 \sqrt[\Lambda]{N(T_{total})}$$

Kokanee population estimates (total and by section) were divided by respective lake surface areas to calculate kokanee densities (no./ha) for each age class.

Survival

Relative recruitment and survival of hatchery-reared fry were determined from trawl catches of marked hatchery-reared fry. A portion of the hatchery fry released to Lake Pend Oreille tributaries were marked with tetracycline. Tetracycline (TM-50) was mixed with fish feed at the rate of 11% by weight and fed to kokanee fry for 10 days prior to release. Kokanee fry captured in the trawl during September were examined for tetracycline marks using an ultraviolet light. The external mark was visible for several months after fry were released. When the external mark faded on older kokanee, the fluorescence was evident in vertebrae. Survival of hatchery-reared kokanee fry was measured by comparing estimates of tetracycline-marked fry to the lake during September to known numbers of marked fry released earlier in the year.

Tetracycline-marked fry have been released to Lake Pend Oreille and its tributaries since 1978 (Table 1). All fry marked during 1985 were released in the Clark Fork River near Cabinet Gorge Hatchery and comprised 22.2% of the total fry released to the Clark Fork River, Granite and Sullivan Springs creeks.

Wild fry survival from potential egg deposition (PED) to September abundance was estimated from trawl catches. PED was calculated by multiplying average fecundity by estimated mature female kokanee abundance.

Annual survival was estimated for age 1+ and older kokanee by comparing trawl-estimated abundance for each year class between years. Spatial distribution of kokanee age classes was determined from abundance estimates for trawl catches within each section.

Egg Take

Since 1974, Idaho Department of Fish and Game has maintained a permanent weir station at the mouth of Sullivan Springs Creek (tributary to Granite Creek), a major kokanee spawning tributary to Lake Pend Oreille (Fig. 1). It has provided kokanee eggs for Lake Pend Oreille as well as other enhancement, activities.

Naturally - Spawning Kokanee

Adult kokanee were enumerated along lakeshore and tributary spawning areas to provide an index of naturally spawning kokanee abundance. Counts were made by walking each area once during the first week of December, the estimated peak of spawning activity. Only pre-determined portions of lakeshore spawning areas were surveyed, whereas entire spawning areas were censused in tributary streams

Table 1. Location and marking of hatchery-reaared kokanee fry released in Lake Pend Oreille and its tributaries.

		Number of	Tetracycline
Location	Date	kokanee fry	marked
Sullivan Springs	7/78	1,600,000	Yes
Sullivan Springs	7/79	1,745,730	Yes
Sullivan Springs	7/80	1,081,400	Yes
Sullivan Springs	7/81	2,219,800	Yes
Clark Fork River	7/81	1,933,600	Yes
Sullivan Springs	7/82	2,487,800	No
Clark Fork River	7/82	1,200,500	Yes
Clark Fork River	7/82	653,000	No
Scenic Bay	7/82	1,480,600	No
Pack River	7/82	21,300	No
Spring Creek	7/82	100,500	Yes
Gamblin Creek	7/82	8,400	No
Sand Creek	7/82	8,400	No
Strong Creek	7/82	8,400	No
Schweitzer Creek	7/82	8,400	No
Grouse Creek	7/82	7,700	No
East River	7/82	10,700	No
Hoodoo Creek	7/82	25,100	No
Priest River	7/82	22,500	No
Sullivan Springs	7/83	2,875,600	No
Clark Fork River	7/83	1,883,300	Yes
Clark Fork River	7/83.	607,100	No
Strong Creek	7/83	12,000	No
Sand Creek	7/83	10,200	No
Schweitzer Creek	7/83	10,200	No
Pack River	7/83	25,500	No
Priest River	7/83	20,400	No
Grouse Creek	7/83	10,200	No
East River	8/83	20,400	No
Hoodoo Creek	7/83	25,400	No
Murphy Creek	8/83	17,000	No
Clark Fork River	7/84	645,034	No
Clark Fork River	8/84	1,011,594	No
Granite Creek	7/84	1,388,638	Yes
Granite Creek	7/84	1,204,886	No
Granite Creek	8/84	571,900	Yes
Granite Creek	8/84	49,088	No
Clark Fork River	7/85	1,209,128	No
Clark Fork River	8/85	1,325,095	Yes
Granite Creek	8/85	489,888	No
Sullivan Springs	8/85	2,938,391	No

Age and Length at Maturity

Total length was measured and otoliths extracted from mature kokanee collected during the late fall spawning season for spawner age and length frequency. Spawners were collected at Scenic Bay with a gill net and from the weir on Sullivan Springs Creek. Age of maturity was also estimated for kokanee collected during September trawling.

Zooplankton

The zooplankton community was sampled in three sections of Lake Pend Oreille selected to represent the southern, middle and northern portions of the lake (Fig. 3). Three random samples were collected from each section monthly from May to October. Samples were collected with a 1/2 m ring plankton sampler calibrated by a General Oceanics flow meter and equipped with a 130 μm net and bucket. Vertical hauls were made by towing the sampler at approximately 0.15 m/s with an electric winch. Zooplankters were enumerated by genera using standard dilution and subsampling methods (Edmondson and Winberg 1971). Enumeration data were expanded to estimate the temporal distribution of zooplankton densities from May through October.

Angler Effort and Harvest

A creel survey was conducted to provide minimum estimates of angling effort, catch and harvest of sport fishes. The 1985 survey incorporated a sampling scheme similar to that used to 1980 (Ellis and Bowler 1981).

The creel survey was temporally stratified to reduce variability and provide seasonal catch comparisons. The census season was stratified into five 1.5-month periods to correspond with periods used to surveys prior to 1980. Each period was further stratified into three 2-week intervals. Sampling dates during the 2-week intervals were established to correspond with the 46-day (1.5-month) periods used in surveys prior to 1980.

Creel data were collected from 13 major access areas (north end of lake: Garfield Bay, Trestle Creek, Johnson Creek, Sandpoint, Island View, Kamloops Resort, Ellisport Bay; south end of lake: Farragut, MacDonalds, Boileaus, JDs, Vista Bay, Scenic Bay). These areas were sampled two weekend days and one weekday during each 46-day period. Several access areas (Trestle Creek, Johnson Creek, Sandpoint, Island View, Kamloops Resort) were not sampled during extreme low use periods.

Survey data were expanded by day type (weekends or weekdays) to estimate harvest, catch and effort (hours and angler-days) for each interval, period and entire census survey. For example, an angler-day was defined as one anglers fishing trip regardless of actual fishing time. The number of anglers interviewed on a given day was multiplied by the number of similar day types within a 2-week interval to estimate minimum number of angler-days

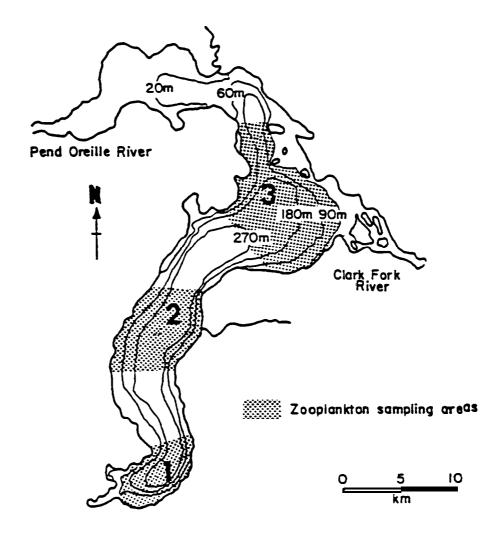


Figure 3. Zooplankton sampling areas used during 1985 on Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho.

for each interval. Similar expansions were used to estimate harvest, catch and hours of effort. Interval estimates were summed for each period and period estimates were summed to represent the entire season. Expanded data were classified as "estimated minimum" because some anglers exited the lake through unsurveyed landings.

RESULTS

Kokanee Abundance, Distribution and Biomass

Total kokanee abundance estimated during September 1985 was 4.47 million fish (Fig. 4). Contribution of individual year classes (YC) was 1.79 million for the 1984 YC (age 0+), 1.03 million for the 1983 YC (age 1+), 1.24 million for the 1982 YC (age 2+) and 0.37 million for the 1980-1981 YCs (age 3+ and 4+),

Average kokanee density estimated for the entire lake (combined age-classes) was 198 fish per hectare (Fig. 5). Densities ranged from a high of 315 kokanee/ha in section 2 to a low of 55 kokanee/ha to section 6. Age 0+ and age 2+ and older kokanee densities were significantly higher (P<0.10) in southern than northern sections of Lake Pend Oreille. Age 1+ kokanee densities were significantly higher to mid-lake than southern sections of Lake Pend Oreille.

Estimated biomass of age 1+ and older kokanee in Lake Pend Oreille during September was 201,803 kg. Mean kokanee lengths and weights from the September trawl catch were 153 mm and 29 g for the 1983 YC (age 1+), 221 mm and 92 g for the 1982 YC (age 2+), and 262 mm and 160 g for the 1980-81 YCs (age 3+ and 4+),

Age and Length at Maturity

Mature kokanee, determined from the September trawl catch, were found in the 2+ and older age classes only. Mature kokanee comprised 4.17% of age 2+ kokanee with 14% males and 86% females. An estimated 85.3% of age 3+ and 4+ kokanee were mature and comprised of 39% males and 61% females. Age composition of kokanee spawners in Sullivan Springs was 37% age 3+ (1981 YC) and 62% age 4+ (1980 YC).

Mean lengths of kokanee spawned from Sullivan Springs Creek were 283 \pm 4.1 mm and 274 \pm 3.4 mm (∞ =0.05) for male (n=54) and female (n=47) fish, respectively (Fig. 6). Mean lengths of kokanee spawners collected from Scenic Bay (Navy yard) in the southern end of Lake Pend Oreille were 283 \pm 6.2 mm and 256 \pm 3.0 mm (∞ =0.05) for males (n=30) and females (n=24), respectively. Males were significantly (P<0.05) larger than females at both locations. Male lengths did not differ significantly between locations, whereas females from Sullivan Springs were significantly longer than from Scenic Bay.



Figure 4. Kokanee abundance with 90% confidence intervals estimated in September 1985, Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho.

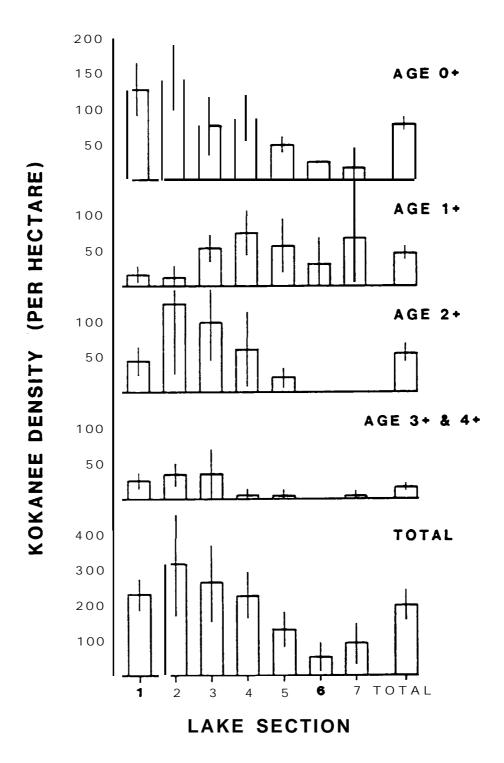


Figure 5. Kokanee density in Lake Pend **Oreille** by age group and lake section during September, 1985. Vertical bars represent 90% confidence intervals.

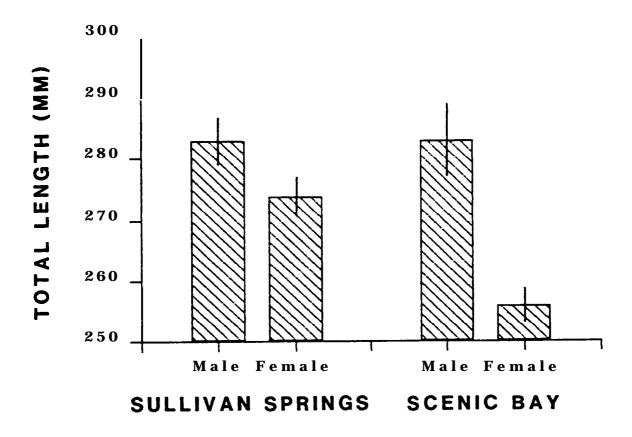


Figure 6. Mean lengths and 95% confidence limits for adult kokanee collected from Sullivan Springs Creek (weir) and Scenic Bay (gill net) during the 1985 spawning season.

Spawning Escapement

An estimated 366,426 mature kokanee comprised the 1985 spawning escapement 1n Lake Pend Oreille and its tributaries. Approximately 75,500 kokanee (53% males, 47% females) migrated to Sullivan Springs Creek from the first week in November to mid-January. The proportion of hatchery-reared fry returning as adults in 1985 was an estimated 4.6%. The Sullivan Springs run represented approximately 21% of the total Lake Pend Oreille spawning escapement. Spawner counts in other tributaries and lakeshore spawning areas ranged from 5,284 kokanee in Spring Creek to 0 kokanee in Trestle Creek, and 2,912 kokanee on southern lakeshore areas to 2 kokanee counted on northern lakeshore beaches (Table 2).

Based on tetracycline mark recoveries, an estimated 34% of the kokanee spawners collected by gill net in Scenic Bay were of hatchery origin.

Potential Egg Deposition and Egg Take

Total potential egg deposition was an estimated 122.5 million with 104.1 million eggs attributed to natural spawning and 18.4 million eggs available from Sullivan Springs kokanee. Mature female kokanee abundance, estimated from September trawling, was 234,620 fish. Approximately 35,300 female kokanee (15% of the total estimate) were spawned at the Sullivan Springs weir with 199,320 female kokanee left to spawn naturally throughout Lake Pend Oreille and Its tributaries. Fecundity was assumed to be 522 viable eggs per female (Bowler 1979). Actual egg take at Sullivan Springs was 10.6 million eggs (300 eggs/female) which represents 58% of the estimated egg potential of artificially spawned females.

Survival and Recruitment

Estimated kokanee fry survival from potential egg deposition to September trawl sampling was at 1.46% for the 1984 YC. Survival estimates for hatchery and wild fry were 5.3 and 0.79%, respectively. A survival rate of 16.2% was estimated for 1984 YC hatchery-reared fry from time of release in late July to fall sampling 1n early September. Hatchery fry provided an estimated 54% of the total kokanee fry recruitment in 1985. These estimates are partially based on the release of 5.96 million hatchery-reared fry (22% marked with tetracycline) during late July and early August and the subsequent trawl catch of 3 marked try out of 25 total fry. Estimated annual survival (September to September; combined wild and hatchery fish) of other kokanee was 39% for the 1983 YC (age 1+) and 82% for the 1982 YC (age 2+).

Table 2. Spawning ground survey sites and adult kokanee counts made during the 1985 spawning season on Lake Pend Oreille and its tributaries, excluding the Granite Creek drainage

	Lak	eshore			Trib	utaries	
Southern		Northern		Southern		Northern	
Site	Count	Site	Count	Site	Count	Site	Count
Bayview areas		Garfield Bay	0	North Gold Creek	696	Trestle Creek	0
		Camp Bay	0	South Gold Creek	235	West Trestle Creek	0
Bubb's	2	Sunnyside	0			Johnson Creek	-
Wheel Inn	347	Trestle Creek Resorts	2			Garfield Creek	-
J.D.'s	6	Ellisport	0			Twin Creek	5
Boileaus	11	·				Lightning Creek	127
Bayview Resort	657					Spring Creek	5,284
Navy Yard	1,286					. 0	
Private Docks	165						
MacDonald's Resort	438						
Vista Bay	3						
Subtotal	2,915						
Farragut	_						
Lakeview	4						
Beaver Bay	-						
Total	2,919		2		931		5,416
Grand Total	9,268						

Zooplankton Community

Macro-zooplankton in Lake Pend Oreille were sampled from May to November Zooplankton densities were estimated from May through July. in 1985. Generic composition included <u>Darphnia</u>, <u>Bosmina</u>, <u>Cyclops</u>, <u>Diaptomus</u>, Diaphanosoma, and Epichura. Mysis density was not determined 1n 1985. Total zooplankton density was less than 10 organisms per liter at the end of June and increased to over 30 per liter during July (Fig. 7). clops and Diaptomus were the most abundant zooplankters, with combined densities ranging from 7.3 per liter at the end of May to 24.5 per liter at the end of July. The cladocerans Daphnia and Bosmina were rarely collected until the end of July. Bosmina densities increased from 0.5 per liter at the end of June to 1.5 per liter by the end of July. Densities of Daphnia were negligible during May and June but increased to 1.4 per liter by the end of July. Epichura and Diaphanosoma were rarely found in Lake Pend Oreille until the end of July, when densities were 0.2 and 0.1 per liter, respectively. In general, zooplankton densities were lower in the northern portion (section 3) of Lake Pend Oreille than southern portions (sections 1 and 2). comparisons between months and between lake sections for each zooplankton group are shown to Figure 7 and Table 3.

<u>Fishery</u>

A creel survey was used to estimate catch, harvest and effort on Lake Pend Oreille from April 15 to November 30, 1985. At the time of this writing, creel survey information has been compiled only for the first three survey periods (through August 30).

Total Catch and Effort

Lake Pend Oreille sport anglers fished an estimated 149,459 hours during 29,878 angler days to catch 61,213 fish from April 15 to August 30, 1985 (Table 4). Creeled species include: kokanee, Kamloops, cutthroat, rainbow trout, bull trout, lake whitefish, mountain whitefish and various spiny rayed species. Approximately 43% of the anglers fished for kokanee which made up 87% of the estimated catch, and 52% of the anglers fished for trout (including bull trout) which comprised 11% of the estimated catch.

Kokanee Catch and Harvest

Anglers seeking kokanee caught an estimated 52,335 kokanee from April 15 to August 30 of which 52,268 (99.9%) were harvested (Table 5). Average catch rate for anglers seeking kokanee was approximately one fish per hour for 50,997 hours of effort. An additional 890 kokanee were harvested by anglers seeking other species.

Table 3. Statistical comparisons between months and between sections for zooplankton with significant (P≤0.05) interaction between sampling time (month) and location (section). As S indicates significant difference between pairs, whereas NS indicates a non-significant difference. Comparisons for other zooplankton groups (with non-significant interaction terms) are listed in Figure 6.

Comparison		Cyclops			Bosmir	ıa	Е	pichura			Daphnia			Total	
						Sect	ion								
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
May vs June	S	S	S	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	S	S	S
May vs July	S	S	S	S	S	NS	NS	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
June vs July	S	NS	S	S	S	NS	NS	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
						Mor	nth								
	May	June	July	May	June	July	May	June	July	May	June	July	May	June	July
Sections 1 vs 2	NS	S	NS	NS	NS	S	NS	NS	S	NS	NS	NS	NS	S	NS
Sections 1 vs 3	NS	S	NS	NS	NS	S	NS	NS	S	NS	NS	S	NS	S	NS
Sections 2 vs 3	NS	S	NS	NS	NS	S	NS	NS	S	NS	NS	S	S	S	S

Table 4. Estimated number of anglers, effort and species harvested by survey period, Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1985.

Period	Anglers	Hours	Kokanee	Small ^a rainbow	Large ^b rainbow	Cut- throat	Bull trout	Lake White fish	Spiny- rays	Other trout	Non- game	Totals
Apr 15-May 30	11,391	70,205	1,942	1,552	911	203	621	606	62	138	74	6,109
May 31-July 15	9,120	41,667	24,588	1,147	372	267	149	0	139	215	19	26,896
July 16-Aug 30	9,367	37,587	26,628	985	144	125	60	22	200	42	2	28,208
Totals	29,878	149,459	53,158	3,684	1,427	595	830	628	401	395	95	61,213

^a< 43.2 cm ^b≥ 43.2 cm

Table 5. Estimated catch and harvest data for anglers seeking kokanee from April 15 to August 30, Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1985.

Period	Anglers	Hours Fished	Kokanee caught	Kokanee harvested	Other game fish caught	Kokanee caught per hour	Kokanee harvested per hour	All game fish caught per hour
Apr 15-May 30	934	4,068	1,550	1,550	208	0.38	0.38	0.43
May 31-July 15	4,659	18,999	24,196	24,170	652	1.27	1.27	1.31
July 16-Aug 30	7,343	27,930	26,589	26,548	1,053	0.95	0.95	0.99
Totals	12,936	50,997	52,335	52,268	1,913	1.03	1.02	1.06

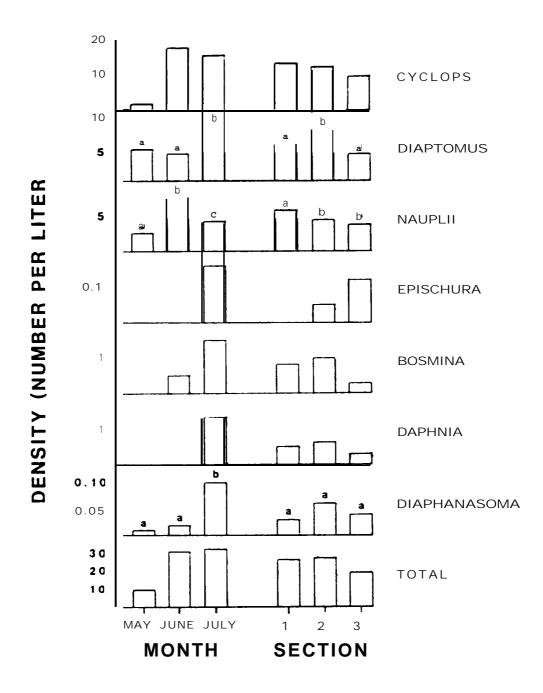


Figure 7. Tempora and spatial distribution of mean zooplankton densities in Lake Pend Oreille, Iidaho, May-July 1985. Identical letters above means indicate a non-significant (P>O. 05)difference between compared months or between compared lake sect ions for each zooplankton group (main effect pairwise comparison). Statistical comparisons for unlettered groups (signif icant interact ion between sampling time and location) are listed in Table 3.

Kamloops/Rainbow Trot Catch and Harvest

Average catch rate for anglers seeking trophy (≥43.2 cm) Kamloops from April 15 to August 30 was approximately 59 hours per fish, calculated from a total catch of 1,444 trophy Kamloops in 84,798 hours of effort (Table 6). Of this catch 1,111 (77%) were harvested. An additional 316 trophy Kamloops were harvested by anglers seeking other salmonids.

Average catch rate for anglers seeking sub-trophy (<43.2 cm) rainbow trout was approximately 0.11 fish per hour, calculated from a total catch of 748 rainbow trout in 6,775 hours of effort (Table 7). Approximately 695 fish (93%) were harvested. An additional 2,989 sub-trophy rainbow trout were harvested by anglers seeking other species.

Cutthroat Trout Catch and Harvest

Average catch rate for anglers seeking cutthroat trout was approximately 0.03 fish per hour, calculated from a total catch of 37 cutthroat in 1,160 hours of effort (Table 8). Most of the fish caught (84%) were harvested. An additional 564 cutthroat were harvested by anglers seeking other species.

Bull Trout Catch and Harvest

Average catch rate for anglers seeking bull trout from April 15 to August 30 was estimated at 0.08 fish per hour, calculated from a total catch of 421 bull trout in 5,139 hours of effort (Table 9). Most of the bull trout catch (96%) was harvested. An additional 427 bull trout were harvested by anglers seeking other species.

Additional Harvest

Estimated whitefish harvest during the reported periods was 628 or 1.0% of the total harvest. An estimated 401 spiny ray and 395 miscellaneous salmonids were also caught, each comprising approximately 0.7% of the total harvest. Estimated harvest of nongame fish was 95 for the reporting periods which comprised 0.2% of the total harvest.

Angler Residency

Idaho residents comprised 54% of the total anglers fishing Lake Pend Oreille from April 15 to August 30 and expended 58% of the total fishing effort (Table 10).

Table 6. Estimated catch and harvest data for interviewed anglers seeking Large rainbow trout from April 15 to August 30, Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1985.

Period	Anglers	Hours Fished	Large rainbow caught	Large rainbow harvested	Other trout species caught	Other game fish caught	Large rainbow caught (hrs/fish)	Large rainbow harvested (hrs/fish)	All trout caught (hrs/fish)	All game fish caught (hrs/fish)
Apr 15-May 30	7,435	57,311	999	778	1,375	316	57	74	24	21
May 31-July 15	3,549	18,700	335	240	734	136	56	78	17	15
July 16-Aug 30	1,799	8,787	110	93	277	48	80	94	23	20
Totals	12,783	84,798	1,444	1,111	2,386	500	59	76	22	20

^a ≥ 43.2 cm

Table 7. Estimated catch and harvest data for interviewed anglers seeking small rainbow trout from April 15 to August 30, Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1985.

Period	Anglers	Hours Fished	Small rainbow caught	Small rainbow harvested	Other trout species caught	Other game fish caught	Small rainbow caught per hour	Small rainbow harvested per hour	All trout caught per hour	All game fish caught per hour
Apr 15-May 30	731	3,610	320	290	137	242	0.09	0.08	0.13	0.19
May 31-July 15	681	2,785	331	318	241	318	0.12	0.11	0.21	0.32
July 16-Aug 30	99	380	97	87	27	34	0.26	0.23	0.33	0.42
Totals	1,511	6,775	748	695	405	594	0.11	0.10	0.17	0.26

^a < 43.2 cm

Table 8. Estimated catch and harvest data for interviewed anglers seeking cutthroat trout from April 15 to August 30, Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1985.

Period	Anglers Hou	rs Fished	Cut- throat trout caught	Cut- throat trout harvested	Other trout species caught	Other game fish caught	Cutthroat trout caught per hour	Cutthroat trout harvested per hour	All trout caught per hour	All game fish caught per hour
Apr 15-May 30	154	580	14	12	122	40	0.02	0.02	0.23	0.30
May 31-July 15	102	453	17	13	55	14	0.04	0.03	0.16	0.19
July 16-Aug 30	46	127	6	6	4	16	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.20
Totals	302	1,160	37	31	181	70	0.03	0.03	0.19	0.25

Table 9. Estimated catch and harvest data for interviewed anglers seeking bull trout from April 15 to August 30, Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1985.

Period	Anglers	Hours Fished	Bull trout caught	Bull trout harvested	Other trout species caught	Other game fish caught	Bull trout caught per hour	Bull trout harvested per hour	All trout caught per hour	All game fish caught per hour
Apr 15-May 30	835	4,452	365	353	439	452	0.08	0.08	0.18	0.28
May 31-July 15	90	565	42	36	18	6	0.07	0.06	0.11	0.12
July 16-Aug 30	34	122	14	14	0	0	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11
Totals	959	5,139	421	403	457	458	0.08	0.08	0.17	0.26

Table 10. Estimated number and effort of resident and nonresident anglers by survey period, Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1985.

	Resident		Nonresident		Totals	
Period	Anglers	Hours	Anglers	Hours	Anglers	Hours
Apr 15-May 30	7,862	48,880	3,529	21,325	11,391	70,205
May 31-July 15	4,285	19,770	4,835	21,897	9,120	41,667
July 16-Aug 30	4,074	17,454	5,293	20,133	9,367	37,587
Totals	16,221	86,104	13,657	63,355	29,878	149,459
Percent of Total	54%	58%	46%	42%	,	,

DISCUSSION

Population Status and Fishery

Low kokanee abundance to 1985 indicated continued suppression of kokanee production since its initial decline in the 1960s (Fig. 8). Although low, population totals have been assisted by hatchery supplementation and have not declined substantially since 1978. While total kokanee abundance has stabilized somewhat during the past eight years, age-class structure has varied. Relative contribution of age 0+ kokanee has been increasing since 1977, whereas the proportion of age 3+ and older kokanee increased only in 1985 after declining the previous four years (Fig. 9). This latter age group makes up the majority of kokanee spawners and the kokanee fishery.

In general, catch statistics indicate that the quality of kokanee fishing continues to decline from the fishery of the mid-1960s. Kokanee catch from April to September in 1985 represented a 44% decline from estimated catch in 1980 for the same time period and follows a downward trend evident since 1964 (Fig. 10). Fishing pressure for kokanee has also declined, with a 34% reduction from 1980 to 1985. This reduction in effort is evident in the percentage of total anglers seeking kokanee, which declined from 54% in 1980 to 43% in 1985. Concurrent decline of catch and effort has resulted in similar catch rates (approximately 1 fish/hour) for anglers seeking kokanee over the last seven survey years (1975-1980 and 1985), compared to catch rates in excess of 3 kokanee per hour for sport anglers during the mid-1960s (Ellis and Bowler 1981).

Kokanee production at Cabinet Gorge Hatchery will help rebuild the kokanee population and fishery in Lake Pend Oreille and provide valuable economic benefits. Net economic worth of the kokanee fishery has reflected the decline in the kokanee population. Estimated annual economic worth (in 1984 dollars) was approximately \$5 million in the early 1960s prior to the decline in kokanee catch (calculated from Gordon 1970). By 1984, the estimated economic worth of the kokanee fishery had declined by 40% to \$3 million. Recognizing the Importance of the Lake Pend Oreille kokanee fishery, Idaho Department of Fish and Game has made the restoration of this fishery one of its highest priorities in the panhandle region. Management goals include an annual harvest of 0.75 million kokanee supporting 330,000 hours of effort with catch rates over 2 fish per hour. These goals were designed to provide a fishery comparable to the kokanee fishery of the Realization of these goals would be impossible without the mid-1960s. additional hatchery space provided by Cabinet Gorge Hatchery. capacity, up to 20 million kokanee fry will be produced annually, whereas previous hatchery production was limited to 6-8 million kokanee fry. This increased production will provide the basis for rebuilding the kokanee population to historic levels (>12 million). In addition to improving the kokanee fishery, increased kokanee production will enhance the forage base for trophy Kamloops, bull trout and bald eagles. '

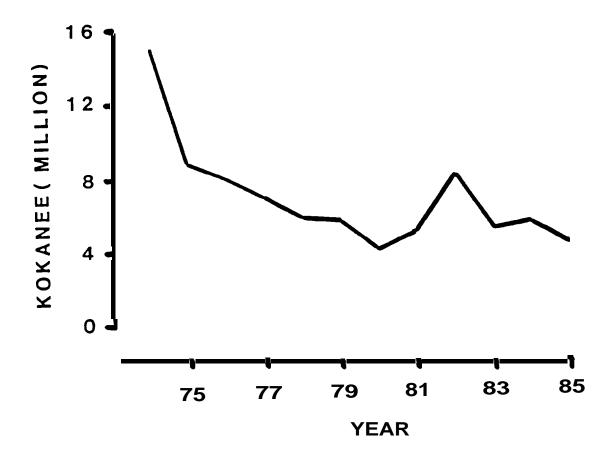


Figure 8. Total kokanee abundance estimated during September- in lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1974-1985.

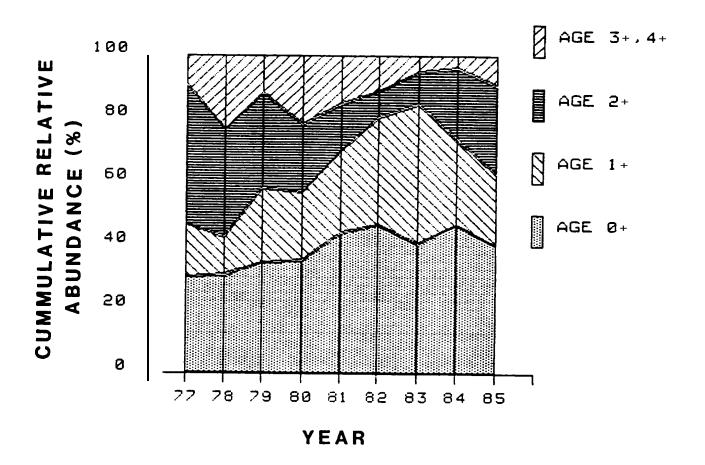


Figure 9. Relative abundance of four age groups of kokanee estimated during September from Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1977-1985.

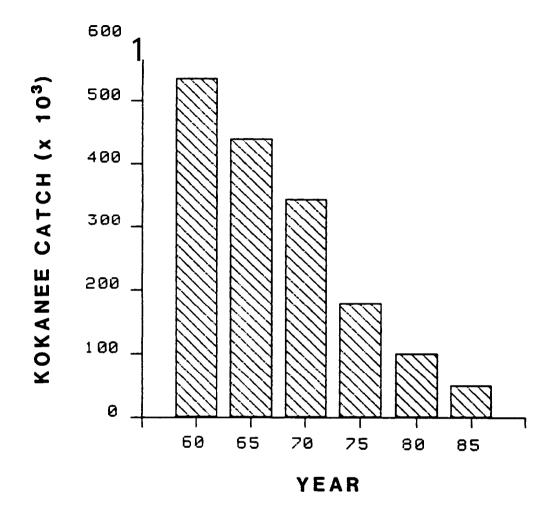


Figure 10. Mean (3 to 5 year) annual kokanee catch from Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, April 15 - August 30, 1960-1980, and point estimate for 1985.

Spawning

Increased kokanee production is dependent on adequate spawning escapement and egg take. The kokanee run up Granite Creek to the Sullivan Springs weir and egg take station comprised approximately 21% of the total spawning escapement. Kokanee spawning escapement to Sullivan Springs to 1985 (75,500 adults) was substantially lower than in 1984 (130,000 adults). An estimated 4.6% of hatchery fry released in Sullivan Springs during 1980 returned as adults, compared to over 10% in previous years (Table 11). reduction in spawner numbers and estimated fry-to-adult survival is probably a result of extreme cold water conditions in November and December and not an indication of lower total spawner numbers. Abnormally low water temperatures reduced migration activity, resulting in a large portion of Sullivan Springs spawners using lower Granite Creek and lakeshore areas near the mouth of Granite Creek to spawn (Gene McPherson, IDFG, personal communication). Actual egg take at Sullivan Springs was 10.6 million which represents 58% of the estimated number of eggs available in the system (18.4 million). The 1985 egg take represents only 71% of the 1984 egg take (15 million) and 38% of the anticipated egg take necessary to fill Cabinet Gorge Hatchery (28 million). Kokanee escapement to Sullivan Springs in 1986 may be as high as 260,000 adults if northern Idaho has typical late fall and early winter weather. This escapement would yield over 38 million eggs and exceed the egg take necessary to fill Cabinet Gorge Hatchery. On the other hand, kokanee escapement to Sullivan Springs in 1986 may be less than 120,000 adults if weather during the spawning season (November-December) is similar to 1985. This escapement would yield less than 18 million eggs for hatchery Contingency plans are being developed to optimize egg take if conditions unfavorable for kokanee migration occur.

In addition to Granite Creek, kokanee spawners utilized other tributary streams (highest number in Spring Creek) and lakeshore (highest number on southern lakeshore beaches) spawning areas. Although more adult kokanee were counted in 1985 than during the previous spawning ground survey (1978), no consistent trends have developed since counts began in 1972 (Table 12). Hatchery contribution to naturally spawning kokanee on lakeshore areas was approximately 34% in 1985, which corresponds closely to the estimates for 1983 (30%) and 1984 (32%) (LaBolle 1986). Hatchery contribution to naturally spawning kokanee abundance will be monitored closely as hatchery production increases.

Several undesirable responses in the spawning population may occur as kokanee abundance increases in Lake Pend Oreille. Declining kokanee abundance has resulted in increased spawner age and length. Age 4+ kokanee dominated the spawning run to Sullivan Springs Creek in 1984 and 1985, compared to a dominance of age 3+ spawners in 1983 (Cochnauer 1984). Mean length of kokanee spawners has varied from 292 mm in 1951 to 245 mm to 1976 and has been increasing since 1976 (Fig. 11). Increasing length may be the result of reduced competition for forage due to low population densities and increased foraging efficiency on mysids by larger size classes. Larger and older kokanee spawners increase individual fecundity, provide a more desirable sport harvest and allow the catchable population to be in the fishery for an additional year. Age and length of kokanee spawners are typically density dependent and will decline somewhat as kokanee density

Table 11. Weir counts of kokanee entering Sullivan Springs from 1974 through 1985, number of eggs collected and subsequent fry released into Sullivan Springs.

Year	Kokanee spawned	Eggs collected	Fry released following yeara	Estimated adults hatchery and year	returning from releases returned	% hatchery fry returning as adults
1974	13,549	985,000	629,200	NA		NA
1975	14,200	NA	NA	NA		NA
1976	10,200	913,000	757,700	55,500 42,200	(1980) (1981)	12.96% ^b
1977	17,560	2,040,000	1,598,800	135,300 29,000	(1981) (1982)	10.28% ^b
1978	16,875	1,400,000	1,745,700	118,000 58,000	(1982) (1983)	10.08%
1979	12,005	1,451,400	1,081,400	42,000 75,660	(1983) (1984)	10.88%
1980	48,760	4,186,700	2,219,800	54,340 46,810	(1984) (1985)	4.56%
1981	112,820	11,653,000	2,487,800	27,935	(1985)	
1982	115,850	11,432,900	2,875,589			
1983	79,850	6,320,000	3,214,512			
1984	122,000	15,000,000	2,938,391			
1985	75,500	10,600,000				

^aAdditional fry were released in other areas.

^bThis summer reflects only those tetracycline-marked adults entering Sullivan Springs. Unknown numbers of marked adults have been documented spawning with wild kokanee in the Bayview area.

Table 12. Maximum single late-run kokanee counts made during the 1972-1978 and 1985 spawning seasons on Lake Pend Oreille and its tributaries, excluding the Granite Creek drainage.

	Maximum single counts							
Area	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1985
_akeshore								
Bayview	2,626	17,156	3,588	9,231	1,525	3,390	798	2,915
Farragut	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Idlewild Bay	13	0	25	0	0	0	0	-
Lakeview	4	200	18	0	0	25	0	4
Ellisport Bay and Hope	1	436	975	0	0	0	0	0
Trestle Creek Resorts	0	1,000	2,250	0	115	75	138	2
Sunnyside	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fisherman Island	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	-
Anderson Point	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	-
Camp Bay	0	617	0	0	0	0	0	0
Garfield Bay	0	400	20	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	2,669	19,834	7,001	9,231	1,640	3,490	936	2,921
Percent of Total	29%	62%	25%	64%	33%	40%	19%	32%
ributaries								
South Gold Creek	1,030	1,875	1,050	440	0	30	-	235
North Gold Creek	744	1,383	1,068	663	130	426	-	696
Cedar Creek	0	267	44	16	11	0	0	-
Johnson Creek	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Twin Creek	0	0	135	1	0	0	0	5
Mosquito Creek	0	503	0	0	0	0	0	
Clark Fork River	539	3,520	6,180	0				-
Lightning Creek (Lower)) 350	500	2,350	995	2,240	1,300	44	127
Spring Creek	2,610	4,025	9,450	3,055	910	3,390	4,020	5,284
Trestle Creek	1,293	18	1,210	15	0	40	0	0
Garfield Creek	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	
Subtotal	6,566	12,091	21,513	5,185	3,291	5,186	4,046	6,347
Percent of Total	71%	38%			67%		21%	68%
Total				14,416			5,000	9,268

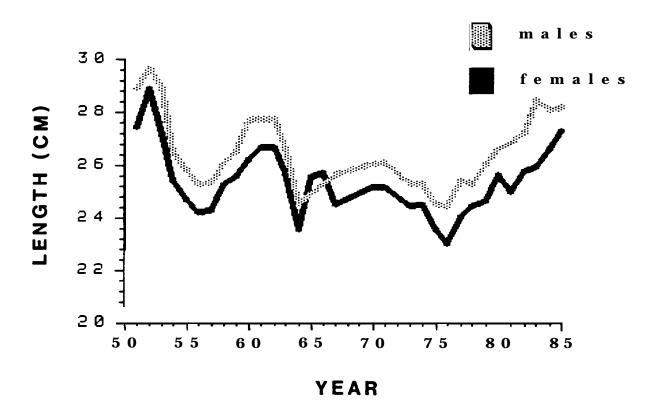


Figure 11. **Mean** total length of male and female kokanee spawners from Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1951-1985.

increases. Changes in length, age and fecundity will be monitored as the kokanee population approaches carrying capacity in order to optimize catch, size and fecundity.

Recruitment

Increased kokanee abundance in lake Pend Oreille will be dependent on fry recruitment from hatchery and wild stocks. Kokanee fry survival from PED to September trawl sampling was 6.6 times higher for hatchery-reared fry (5.3%) than for wild fry (0.79%), partially a result of mid-summer fry releases to avoid early season forage deficiency. Kokanee forage exclusively on zooplankton and prefer cladocerans (Daphnia and Bosmina) when available. The zooplankton community during May, June and July 1985 was dominated by copepods, whereas cladocerans were not evident until late June or July. Similar zooplankton community structures have been evident in Lake Pend Oreille since mysids were well established to 1974 (Rieman 1981). The temporal displacement of cladoceran production (from late May prior to mysid influence to late July following mysid influence) indicates the continued need to delay hatchery fry releases until mid-summer to coincide with increasing cladoceran production. Recruitment of wild kokanee fry (peak emergence in June) may continue at depressed levels as a result of this apparently permanent shift in cladoceran production. Atypically high mortality of emerging sockeye salmon (Oncorhynchus nerka) has been documented when essential food items such as Bosmina were not available (Foerster 1968). Zooplankton densities from May to July 1985 tended to be lower in northern than mid or southern sections of Lake Pend Oreille. Lower densities in this area may be the result of lower lake productivity as a result of the Clark Fork River Influence (Rieman 1976; 1978). Zooplankton composition and density in northern sections of Lake Pend Oreille will be monitored closely as kokanee fry releases from Cabinet Gorge Hatchery increase in the Clark Fork River.

Since 1978, annual recruitment of hatchery fry has been typically less than 0.5 million (22% of total), but has ranged from 0.09 to 1.98 million as a result of variable survival and number released (Fig. 12). Although severely depressed, annual recruitment of wild fry has been relatively stable at approximately 1.8 million (range 1.6 to 2.1 million) since 1978. The 1985 estimate (0 .8 million) was an exception to this trend but may be inaccurate due to small sample size. Thus, the fluctuation in kokanee fry recruitment and relative year class strength are more a function of hatchery fry production and survival than production and survival of wild fry. Fry survival will be monitored closely in future years to substantiate potential changes resulting from different release strategies and increased hatchery production.

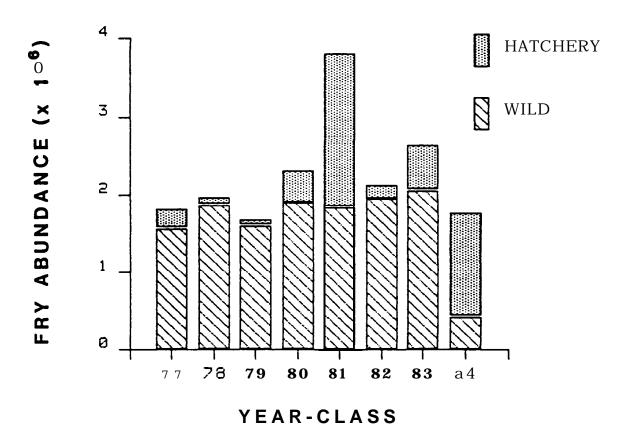


Figure 12. Relative contribution of wild and hatchery production to total kokanee fry recruitment (in September) in Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho, 1977-1984 year classes.

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